



**FEDERAL AID  
IN  
FISH RESTORATION**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| STATE OF: PROJECT   | Idaho   |
| NO: SUBPROJECT      | F-75-R-3  |
| NO. 2: STUDY NO. 1: | Coldwater Fish Investigations                                       |
| JOB NO. 1:          | Bear Lake Cutthroat Investigations                                  |
| JOB NO. 2:          | Collect Brood Fish<br>Monitor Brood Fish Returns                    |
| JOB TITLE: PERIOD   |   |
| COVERED:            | Bear Lake Cutthroat Investigations<br>July 1, 1987 to June 30, 1988 |

IDAHO'S BEAR LAKE CUTTHROAT TROUT  
TRAPPING OPERATION

1988 ANNUAL REPORT

by  
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In order to maintain a wild egg source of Bear Lake Cutthroat Trout, Idaho again operated a temporary cutthroat trapping operation on St. Charles Cr. (an Idaho tributary of Bear Lake in SE Idaho). According to our agreement with the state of Utah, all captured brood cutthroat are taken to Utah's Swan Cr. facility to be spawned; with the exception of twenty percent which are put over the weir at St. Charles Cr. to spawn naturally. The eggs are taken at Swan Cr., and shipped to Mantua Hatchery (Utah) where they are incubated and raised to fingerling size for Spring planting.

This year (1988) the temporary trap was installed on the Seventh of April. It was in operation until the twenty-second of June when low water flows and a corresponding decrease in spawning cutthroat indicated the run was over. On May twenty-eight, St. Charles Creek was completely dewatered (below the state highway) for irrigation purposes, and operations were temporarily halted until flows were restored the following day. During the period of operation, a total of two-hundred and ninety-seven Bear Lake Cutthroat spawners were captured (121 males and 176 females; 59.3% female ratio). Sixty fish were tagged and released upstream (29 males and 31 females). Two hundred and thirty-five cutthroat were transported to Swan Cr. to be artificially spawned (91 males, 144 females). One female and one male cutthroat became a mortality before transportation. Two females and two males were lost at the Swan Cr. holding facility, and twelve females were released as spawn-outs. Fourteen females were unaccounted for at the Swan Cr. facility (possibly lost to predation, or were escapees and put back in Swan Cr. pen). Utah personnel spawned one hundred and twenty-eight St. Charles Cr. Bear Lake females which yielded 400,900 eggs. The total eggs taken at both facilities this year was 824,145. Utah again trapped fish at Big Springs this year and transported them to Swan Creek for spawntaking. These additional eggs brought the grand total of eggs taken at Bear Lake up to 869,949 for 1988.

# 1988 ST. CHARLES CREEK BEAR LAKE CUTTHROAT RUN

| WEEK     | C5 | M/F   | L (MM)  | TEMP. F | OTHER              |
|----------|----|-------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| 4/7-10   | 0  | 0/0   | -----   | 32-49   | 4DAYS,<br>1SUCKER  |
| 4/11-17  | 3  | 2/1   | 530-610 | 39-60   | 1 CARP,<br>18 SU.  |
| 4/18-24  | 9  | 5/4   | 510-700 | 42-56   | 5 CARP,<br>32 SU.  |
| 4/25-5/1 | 8  | 2/6   | 440-650 | 38-60   | 10 CARP<br>15 SU.  |
| 5/2-8    | 21 | 16/5  | 530-740 | 32-58   | 2 CARP,<br>14 SU.  |
| 5/9-15   | 26 | 12/14 | 410-640 | 38-68   | 20 CARP<br>23 SU.  |
| 5/16-22  | 39 | 17/22 | 470-760 | 40-64   | 69 CARP<br>79 SU.  |
| 5/23-29  | 51 | 21/30 | 425-700 | 45-60   | 90 CARP<br>173 SU. |
| 5/30-6/5 | 61 | 19/42 | 420-690 | 49-66   | 76 CARP<br>653 SU. |
| 6/6-12   | 48 | 16/32 | 420-710 | 54-65   | 48 CARP<br>916 SU. |
| 6/13-19  | 28 | 9/19  | 435-660 | 57-68   | 27 CARP<br>343 SU. |
| 6/20-22  | 3  | 2/1   | 480-530 | 61-70   | 3 CARP,<br>21 SU.  |